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UM relay for life raises more than \$40,000

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NEWS RELEASE

May 1, 2008

Contact: Katie Murphy, American Cancer Society community relationship manager, 406-728-1004.

UM RELAY FOR LIFE RAISES MORE THAN \$40,000

MISSOULA –

Forty teams raised more than \$40,000 to fight cancer last weekend at the annual University of Montana American Cancer Society Relay for Life.

Hundreds of participants braved rain, sleet, snow and cold temperatures as they walked laps around the Oval from 6 p.m. Friday, April 25, until 6 a.m. Saturday.

“If you wanted to see the very definition of the word ‘commitment,’ all you had to do was come out and watch the teams walking the Oval at 2 a.m. with hats, gloves and winter coats,” said Katie Murphy, American Cancer Society community relationship manager.

The teams raised funds to help the American Cancer Society fight cancer. The UM Panhellenic community -- including Kappa Alpha Theta, Kappa Kappa Gamma, Delta Gamma and Alpha Phi -- raised more than \$6,300.

While the amount raised at UM is a phenomenal amount for a university Relay for Life event, Murphy said, it was about \$1,000 short of the final total brought in recently at the Montana State University Relay in **Bozeman**.

"The MSU Relay took in just over \$41,000, which has a lot of the Missoula students a little upset," Murphy said. "However, just because the relay is over doesn't mean they still can't beat the Bobcats."

Murphy said both schools will continue fundraising for their event through August.

"There is no way any of the UM students are going to let this stand," she said. "A number of the teams have already told me they have plans to start putting on fundraisers through the end of the school year and into the summer."

For more information about donating to the UM Relay for Life, call the Missoula office of the American Cancer Society at 728-1004.

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